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Pacific Northwest States Consortium Develops Snow and Ice Control Products Specification

The states of Washington, Oregon, Montana and Idaho have formed a committee to develop specifications for chemicals related to snow and ice control. The consortium is comprised of technical experts in the fields of Chemistry, Environment, Corrosion Science and Legal/Purchasing. The consortium has been privileged to work with the foremost pioneers in deicing technology.

The states share the Columbia-Snake River Basin and other common drainage's and share similar geographic, climatological and environmental conditions that govern the choice of chemicals, work methods and equipment for snow and ice control. Although the focus of the consortium has been protection of sensitive resources specific to the Northwest, numerous other states have committed to adopt the specifications, based on environmental and performance considerations.

While considerable information has been developed on the environmental consequences of salts, little research has been developed on the environmental effects of other deicing chemicals. Public agency interest in environmental effects of winter maintenance practices continues to be high. The consortium embraced the opportunity to address environmental issues associated with the use of deicers.

Ron Wright of ITD and Dale Keep from Washington DOT presented the specifications at the 49th Annual Road Builders' Clinic in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho this March. The intent of the document is to provide specifications for the highest quality products within reasonable budgetary constraints, balancing quality of environment with providing the safest possible transportation system for the traveling public during snow and ice conditions. Stringent quality control elements have also been developed in conjunction with manufacturers, distributors and transporters that will enable users to track product quality

Research Advisory Committee to Meet in May - FY1999 Research Proposals to be Reviewed

Research problem statements, submitted for the FY1999 Research Program, are due in the Research Office by 1 May 1998. Literature searches will be completed by the office prior to submitting the statements to the Research Advisory Committee in mid-May.

Historically, the principal researchers have originated the ideas and initiated the majority of problem statements. The researchers have then approached the appropriate technical section at ITD to collaborate on the final proposal. This year the emphasis will be on research proposals originated by the technical sections based on their specific needs. Assistance will be provided to section personnel in the preparation of the problem statements if needed.

Statewide and Sub-area Transportation Model Feasibility Study Completed

The historically based trend model, which ITD has used for statewide traffic projections, has serious limitations for planning purposes. In addition to planning, the Department needs a better tool to address the need for accurate traffic data for the assessment of environmental impacts related to transportation and support of the Pavement Management System and Highway Performance Monitoring System

As a result of these needs, the Department undertook an initial study to investigate the feasibility of developing a PC-based, multi-modal transportation model to facilitate statewide and regional transportation planning. The model would need to have the ability to integrate with the existing transportation planning models used by the metropolitan planning organizations.

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Product Specification (Cont. from Page I, Col. 1)

through batch and lot numbering systems.

This consortium has evaluated the latest technological advances on the effectiveness of deicers. The committee coupled that information with the latest environmental impact data and challenged industry to accommodate the needs of highway maintenance operations in the Northwest.

The consortium developed specifications for nine categories of snow and ice control materials, including performance specifications for corrosion inhibitors. The corrosion inhibitor specifications represent one of the most stringent testing methods as developed by the Washington State Department of Transportation.

The consortium developed specifications for numerous categories of products to



enable users to choose from a wide range of the best products available on the market. By consolidating the resources and purchasing power of the four states, the consortium anticipates that the cost of these products will become more favorable. The consortium is also planning to take full advantage of this purchasing power through the development of a single, interstate bid in the future.

The consortium is excited for the opportunity of any interested States to adopt these specifications and to provide input to the consortium to further refine the specifications in the future.

Internet Provides Transportation Information as Close as Your Mouse

With the Internet available on most Department computers, most offices have access to web sites offering transportation information on just about any subject. Most state transportation departments have joined the USDOT, the Transportation Research Board, AASHTO, trade associations, transportation organizations, universities manufacturers and publishers in establishing a presence in cyber space. Most also provide a convenient method for contacting the webmaster to relay a request for additional information.

The following list of sites provides a fairly comprehensive starting point in your search for relevant information to help you do your job better and more efficiently. Many offer links to additional related sites. Information is available on products and procedures, as well as results of research, both published and in-progress.

Three international sites identified in the January/February issue of Public Roads include World Road Federation/PIARC, World Interchange Network, and International Road Federation. These sites and about 100 others can be accessed via the FHWA Office of International Programs web site.

ASSOCIATIONS

AASHTO

AASHTO RAC's Research in Progress
American Traffic Safety Services Assoc.
Asphalt Emulsion Manufacturers Assoc.
Asphalt Recycling & Reclaiming Assoc.
International Erosion Control Association
International Slurry Surfacing Association
National Aggregate Association
National Asphalt Pavement Association
National Precast Concrete Association
Portland Cement Association

www.aashto.org
www.wsdot.wa.gov/ppsc/research/racrip.htm
www.atssa.com
rampages.onramp.net/~prme/AEMAPage.htm
rampages.onramp.net/~prime/arra.htm
www.ieca.org
www.history.rochchester.edu/issa
www.nationalaggregate.org
www.hotmix.org
www.precast.org
www.portcement.org

COMMERCIAL

Asphalt Contractor Online
Engineering News Record
National Asphalt Training Center II
PaveNet
Roads & Bridges Online

www.asphalt.ccom
www.enr.com
www.asphalt.com/natc/natcII.html
www.mincad.com.au/pavenet
www.roadsbridges.com

COMPUTER SOFTWARE

PCTTRANS on the Internet
SHAREWARE.COM
Solutions Software Corp. CD Databases
Superpave Performance Models & Software
Travel Model Improvement Program

kuhub.cc.ukans.edu/~pctrans/index.html
www.shareware.com
www.env-sol.com
www.encc.umd.edu/superpave
www.bts.gov/tmip/tmip.html

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

BSU Albertson Library	library.idbsu.edu
BSU Engineering Education & Research	coe.idbsu.edu/coe
Colleges & Universities	dragon.princeton.edu/~dhh/schools.html
ISU College of Engineering	www.coe.isu.edu/engr
Kentucky Transportation Center	www.engr.uky.edu/KTC/ktctmb.html
Louisiana Transportation Research Center	www.ltrc.lsu.edu
MIT Center for Transportation Studies	web.mit.edu/cts/www
National Center for Asphalt Technology	www.eng.auburn.edu/center/ncat
NC State Trans. Engr. Systems & Materials	www2.ncsu.edu/eos/service/ce/www/graduate/transportation
ND State Upper Great Plains Trans. Institute	www.ugpti.org
Northwestern Univ. Engr. & Applied Science	www.tech.nwu.edu
NW Univ. Infrastructure Technology Inst.	iti.acns.nwu.edu
NW Univ. Traffic Institute	www.nwu.edu/traffic
NW Univ. Transportation Center	nutcweb.tpc.nwu.edu.
Oregon State Univ. College of Engineering	www.engr.orst.edu
Oregon State Univ. Trans. Research Institute	www.orst.edu/dept/ccee/tri.htm
South Central Superpave Center	www.utexas.edu/research/superpave
Texas Transportation Institute	tii.tamu.edu
Transportation Northwest Regional Center	www.u.washington.edu/~transnow
U of I Engineering & Computer Science	www.uidaho.edu/engr
U of I Library	www.lib.uidaho.edu
U of I Nat. Ctr. for Adv. Trans. Technology	www.uidaho.edu/ncatt
UC@Berkeley College of Engineering	www.coe.berkeley.edu
UC@Berkeley Institute of Trans. Studies	www.its.berkeley.edu
Univ. of Florida Transportation Research Ctr.	www-ufttc.ce.ufl.edu
Univ. of Illinois@Chicago: Urban Trans. Ctr.	www.uic.edu/cupapa/utc/role.htm
Univ. of Mich. ITS Res. Ctr. for Excellence	its.engin.umich.edu/itsrce
Univ. of Minnesota Ctr. for Trans. Studies	www.umn.edu/cts
Univ. of Washington College of Engineering	www.engr.washington.edu
Univ. of Washington ITS	www.ivhs.washington.edu
Univ. of Washington Libraries	www.lib.washington.edu
UT@Austin Ctr. for Transportation Research	www.utexas.edu/depts/ctr
Utah State Univ. Trans. Systems Group	www.engineering.usu.edu/Departments/cee/transport
WV Univ. Staggers National Trans. Ctr.	www.cemr.wvu.edu/~wwwtrans

GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

DOE National Transportation Program	www.ntpdoe.gov
DOE Office of Transportation Technologies	www.eren.doc.gov/ee-cgi-bin/ott.pl
Federal Highway Administration	www.fhwa.dot.gov
FHWA LTAP Resource Library	www.ltap.org
FHWA Office of Technology Applications	www.dot.gov/dotinfo/fhwa/hta/fhwahta.html
FHWA Office of International Programs	international.fhwa.dot.gov
Highway TechNet - Office of Technology Applications	www.ota.fhwa.gov
Idaho Technology Transfer Center	www.uidaho.edu/ncatt/idahot2
Local Tech. Assist. Program Clearinghouse	patriot.nct/~ltap/ltap.html
National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.	www.nhtsa.dot.gov

Transportation Model (Cont. from Page I, Col. 2)

Review of statewide transportation models from Florida, Wyoming, Michigan, Vermont, Indiana, and Pennsylvania were conducted to determine the most appropriate procedure for developing a statewide model. Transportation planning efforts in Idaho were also reviewed. This effort included review of current metropolitan planning organization models as well as Idaho commodity flows. A review of available transportation planning software packages was conducted to select the most appropriate package for statewide modeling. TRANSPLAN was recommended as the best overall package by the research team. Since a transportation model requires the input of a transportation network, traffic data and land use data, the availability of existing digital databases was also assessed. This study has constructed the foundation for developing the Idaho statewide travel demand model.



On the basis of this feasibility study, ITD will implement phase two of this project, the development of the Idaho Statewide Transportation Model. The proposal for the model is represented in the final section of this report.

This project addresses the comprehensive nature of traffic flow, the need for better traffic projections, and the need to tie the model in with the Department's Geographical Information System (GIS). The integration of a GIS with traffic-demand modeling software has not been emphasized in other studies.

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Internet Provides Information (Cont. from Page III, Col. 1)

GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES (CONT.)

Northwest Technology Transfer Center	www.wsdot.wa.gov/transaid/nwt2.htm
Other State Departments of Transportation	www.ai.org/dot/otherstatedot.html
SHRP Information Clearinghouse	www.hend.com/shrp
Turner-Fairbanks Highway Research Center	www.tfhrcc.gov
US DOT	www.dot.gov
US DOT Bureau of Statistics	www.bts.gov
WES - Airfields & Pavements Division	pavement.wes.army.mil
Technology Sharing Program	www.tsp.dot.gov

ORGANIZATIONS

Access ITS (Intelligent Trans. Society)	www.itsa.org
American Concrete Institute	www.aci-int.org
American Public Works Association	www.pubworks.org
American Society for Testing & Materials	www.astm.org
American Society of Civil Engineers	www.asce.org
Asphalt Institute	www.asphaltinstitute.org
Civil Engineering Research Foundation - HITEC	www.cenet.org/hitec
Institute of Transportation Engineers	www.ite.org
International Road Federation	www.irfnet.org/index.html
Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI)	www.pci.org
Salt Institute	www.saltinstitute.org
Search TRB	www.dcddata.com/trb/trb.htm?
Transportation Research Board (TRB)	www.nas.edu/trb
TRB Cooperative Research Program	www2.nas.edu/trbcrp
World Interchange Network (WIN)	www.rme-win-rmi.qc.ca/anglais/menu.html
World Road Association/PIARC	www.piarc.lcpc.fr/
TRB Trans. Research Information Service	www.nas.edu/trb/about/tris.html

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Letters or articles are welcome.

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